



Directory of DoD Public Health Laboratory Services



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DoD Directory Announces Tighter Security Features

The Directory of DoD Public Health Laboratory Services has added additional security levels, thus further scaling back access to the information contained within the Directory's listings. The introduction of a new security level is a result of the increased interest in the Directory and a leap in the number of registered users.

Since its introduction, the Directory's security features have been designed to assign particular access privileges to an individual based upon the information provided during registration. This information is then subjected to an independent validation by the Directory staff, confirming the identity of the individual and their intentions for searching the Directory.



The new system features an added fourth level of access privileges, now only authorizing read-only rights for the agent and disease categories, while completely restricting laboratory information. The Directory's security levels now range from restricted viewing privileges to the ability to edit and view laboratories. Only valid military and DoD personnel are initially granted access to view laboratories' detailed contact information and testing capacities. If you find that your privileges have been downgraded and no longer provide the degree of access needed, please contact Twee Luong with the Directory of DoD Public Health Laboratory Services at luongt@afip.osd.mil or 202.782.2838 in order to upgrade your directory access privileges.

Featured Tutorial: How to Search for Information About a Particular Agent/Disease

West Nile encephalitis is an infection of the brain caused by the West Nile virus, a flavivirus commonly found in Africa, West Asia, and the Middle East. The term "Encephalitis" refers to an inflammation of the brain and can be caused by both viruses and bacteria, including the viruses commonly transmitted by mosquitoes. Currently, several of the DoD's military

medical facilities and associated laboratories are capable of testing for the West Nile virus. In order to demonstrate the relative ease of the Directory's maneuverability, this month's tutorial provides step-by-step instructions on how to search, navigate, and locate comprehensive information about a particular agent or disease.

1. In order to access the system with a user name and password, laboratory and medical personnel must first register with the DoD Directory of Public Health Services. This can be accomplished by accessing the main website at <http://198.97.78.142/vphl/VPHLASP/LoginAdmin.asp>, scrolling down to the bottom of the page, and clicking on the **REGISTER** button.
2. Fill in as much information as possible, ensuring that contact information is current and allows for a direct link to the POC of the laboratory. To ensure access privileges, select the purpose of your visit from the pull-down menu. An email will be sent within 30 minutes confirming the new user name and password.
3. Once logged into the DoD Directory of Public Health Services, the Advance Search page appears. You can then type in the name of a desired agent or disease to be searched, using either the full term or fragments thereof. For instance, when searching for the agent the West Nile Virus, the user may type in the entire name or just the partial name "West" and then click **SEARCH**.

Disorders or Conditions | Agents or Toxins | Laboratory | Search | Log Off System | Change Password

Directory of
DOD Public Health Laboratory Services

Advance Search Directory Public Health Library

Please contact laboratory to verify testing availability before shipping.

AGENT/TOXIN NAME | DISEASE/CONDITION NAME | LABORATORY NAME | GEO LOCATION | LOCATION | TYPES OF TESTS | LAB POC | LAB RETURN TIME

Type in Your Search Criteria (Symbols to use: "&" (%&B), "&" (A & B)) west nile virus Search

First | Back | Next | Last

Tips on searching:

To search for two different categories use the "&" symbol. Example : A & B

To eliminate the search engine from searching all the table columns, you can select the "Checkbox" by the title you want to search against and it will only search that column and return data based on the criteria you type in.

4. The Advance Search page also provides an option for browsing through the Directory's entire list of Diseases, Agents, or Laboratories. For example, to view a list of all agents included in the Directory, the user can click on the **AGENT** link on the top left of the screen and choose **LIST ALL AGENTS** from the drop-down menu. All agents included in the Directory are listed in alphabetical order. To find information on any particular agent, such as West Nile virus, choose the agent and then click **DETAIL**.

AGENTS/TOXINS

Found 167 Records, Displaying Page 9 of 9

Name	Agent Description	Agent Tests
<input type="radio"/> Vibrio parahaemolyticus	Vibrio parahaemolyticus is a pathogenic organism that lives in brackish sea...	DIAGNOSTIC STUDIES: In response to the 1997 and 1998 outbreaks of V. paraha...
<input checked="" type="radio"/> West nile virus	"Encephalitis" means an inflammation of the brain and can be caused by viru...	DIAGNOSTIC STUDIES: There is no specific therapy. In more severe cases, int...
<input type="radio"/> Western equine encephalitis virus	Western equine encephalitis is a disease that is spread by mosquitoes that...	DIAGNOSTIC STUDIES: Monitor for symptoms of arthropod-borne viral fever, u...
<input type="radio"/> Wuchereria bancrofti	Wuchereria bancrofti is the causal agent of lymphatic filariasis, a parasit...	DIAGNOSTIC STUDIES: Identification of microfilariae by microscopical examin...
<input type="radio"/> Yellow fever virus	Yellow fever is a severe infectious tropical disease caused by a flavivirus...	DIAGNOSTIC STUDIES: Specific diagnosis depends on isolation of virus from...
<input type="radio"/> Yersinia enterocolitica	Yersinia enterocolitica is an important human pathogen that researchers inc...	DIAGNOSTIC STUDIES: Stool samples tested for leukocytes usually will prod...
<input type="radio"/> Yersinia pestis	The organism Yersinia Pestis is responsible for the plague. During the 6th c...	DIAGNOSTIC STUDIES: A short-term vaccine against Y. pestis is available for...

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Detail Search

5. The detail page includes comprehensive information regarding the selected agent including its general characteristics, ranging from its mode of transmission to diagnosis and treatment, to internet links to images and additional references.

6. For those registered users with proper authorization, the **TESTING LABORATORIES** tab appears above the Agent/Toxin Description. When clicking on this tab, a list of all DoD military medical facilities capable of testing for this agent will appear. Specific information about each of these laboratories is available by clicking on the individual laboratory name.

AGENTS/TOXINS	
AGENT/TOXIN NAME West Nile virus	AGENT/TOXIN GEOGRAPHIC PREVALENCE CONUS
AGENT/TOXIN DESCRIPTION "Encephalitis" means an inflammation of the brain and can be caused by viruses and bacteria, including viruses transmitted by mosquitoes. West Nile encephalitis is an infection of the brain caused by West Nile virus, a flavivirus commonly found in Africa, West Asia, and the Middle East. It is closely related to St. Louis encephalitis virus found in the United States. NAME: West Nile Virus	
ADDITIONAL AGENT/TOXIN REFERENCE West Nile virus activity -- eastern United States, 2001. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2001;50:617-619, JAMA / volume:288 [page: 158] Centers for Disease Control, West Nile virus infection in organ donor and transplant recipients Georgia and Florida, 2002. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep. 2002;51:790	
AGENT/TOXIN SYMPTOMS Based on preliminary evidence, about one in four infected persons will have mild illness with: Fever Headache Body aches Skin rash (sometimes) Swollen lymph glands.	
TYPES OF STUDIES OR TREATMENTS DIAGNOSTIC STUDIES: There is no specific therapy. In more severe cases, intensive supportive therapy is indicated, i.e., hospitalization, intravenous (IV) fluids and nutrition, airway management, ventilatory support (ventilator) if needed, prevention of secondary infections (pneumonia, urinary tract, etc.), and good nursing care. There is no vaccine against West Nile encephalitis.	
AGENT/TOXIN TARGET TARGETS	AGENT/TOXIN GEOGRAPHICAL REGION KNOWN CASES IN GEO REGIONS
AGENT/TOXIN IMAGES West Nile virus Transmission electron micrograph of West Nile virus	
REFERENCE WEB SITE LINKS Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - West Nile West Nile Description Centers for Disease Control and Prevention West Nile Virus Facts	

Important Reminders/Coming Soon:

- The Directory is available online 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It is linked through the AFIP and GEIS Homepages for easy access and can also be searched using Yahoo, Google, or other search engines
- A link on the Homepage to archives to past issues of the Directory of DoD Public Health Laboratory Services Newsletters, thus chronicling all featured tutorials for an easily accessible How-To Guide to the Directory
- New message board allowing an easier way of communicating questions and concerns to the Directory Staff